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Abstract

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AND THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE LIBRARY BOARD

November, 1949

S. C. L. A. Meeting at Greenville

by

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The twenty-eighth annual meeting of the South Carolina Library Association was held in Greenville, South Carolina at the Poinsett Hotel on September 30th and October 1st. One hundred and sixty-five librarians and trustees registered for the meeting. Association members number two hundred and fifty-six for 1949.

President J. Mitchell Reames opened the convention at three o'clock Friday afternoon. Mayor Kenneth Cass welcomed the librarians to Greenville and told of arrangements which had been made to assure them a pleasant visit while there.

Miss Marjorie Beal of the North Carolina Library Commission gave a report from the Activities Committee of the Southeastern Library Association. The South Carolina Library Association went on record as approving the eight functions and the plan of reorganization of the Southeastern Library Association, except that specific implementation of the plans shall be presented to the South Carolina Library Association for approval.

Mrs. Dorothy Baker Thomas, Librarian of the Avery and Watauga County Libraries of North Carolina, spoke entertainingly on the subject "Books and Shoes Have to Fit". This address is to be published in the *Library Journal*.

The banquet meeting of the convention was held at seven-thirty in the Ballroom of the Poinsett Hotel. An address on the subject "The Library—A World-wide Institution" was given by Mr. Milton E. Lord, Director of the Boston Public Library and President-elect of the American Library Association. Mr. Lord has recently returned from the world tour of the American Town Meeting of the Air. His plea for librarians in the United States to make the library the world institution it properly ought to be was based on conditions as he saw them on this tour.

Informal section breakfasts were held at eight o'clock Saturday morning. Miss Louisa B. Carlisle presided at the College Librarian's section; Miss Frances Gish at the Public Librarians' section; Miss Susan Caldwell at the School Librarians' section; and Miss Mary E. Frayser at the Trustee Section meeting.

The business meeting was held at ten o'clock in the council chamber of the Greenville City Hall. After reports were made by the various committee chairmen, Miss Ellen Perry, A.L.A. councilor, gave a report on that section of the A.L.A. Fourth Activities Committee's report which concerned membership by A.L.A. chapters. The Association passed a resolution disapproving the recommendation which would require all S.C.L.A. mem-

bers to become members of A.L.A. in order for S.C.L.A. to be an A.L.A. chapter.

President Reames gave a short report on the activities of the Executive Committee during the year. Miss Emily Sanders, Chairman of the Nominating Committee proposed the following for officers, and they were elected by the Association: President, Miss Naomi Derrick, Chicora High Naval Base Librarian; Vice-President, Miss Nancy C. Blair, Librarian of the Kennedy Free Library; Secretary, Miss Madeliene Mosimann, Librarian Murray Vocational Library; Treasurer, Mr. Herbert Hucks, Jr., Associate Librarian, Wofford College.

The closing meeting of the Association was a "Made in South Carolina" luncheon held at twelve-thirty in the Poinsett Hotel Ballroom. In his address, "Confessions of a Detective Story Writer", Mr. Hugh Holman, professor and author, gave several interesting reasons why mystery stories have many avid fans. As a special feature of the luncheon meeting, Mr. Samuel Gaillard Stoney acted as Master of Ceremonies in the distribution of prizes donated for the occasion by South Carolina firms and industries.

A. L. A. Southeastern Regional Conference

The American Library Association held its first Southeastern Regional Conference (68th Annual Conference) October 26-29 in Miami Beach. In selecting Miami Beach, which is far from the center of the region, attendance was automatically limited to librarians on expense accounts, those who could afford the time and money for the trip, and those who reside in Florida. None of these groups is large. It is understood that Miami Beach was selected in the hopes that equal facilities and equal opportunity for participation would be afforded all members of the Association. The object was certainly not accomplished. A degree of equality was achieved in providing equally poor and inconvenient housing for both negroes and whites—the negroes in Miami and the whites twelve blocks from the conference hall.

A major part of the program was devoted to the Public Library Inquiry. The two General Sessions on Thursday were entirely on this subject. School, college and special librarians, who did not feel the same interest in the subject as public librarians, felt that at least half of this program might better have been scheduled as a section program. The last General Session on Saturday morning was poorly attended. Those present had come mainly to hear a discussion of the Fourth Activities Report as listed on the program; the topic was merely mentioned and there was no discussion of it.

Many of the Sectional meetings held at the headquar-

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 Miss Emily Sanders, Librarian, Charleston Free Library, Charleston, Past President.

ters hotel were conducted under difficulties. Those scheduled in the mezzanine were enlivened by noise from the lobby and by the passage of hotel employees to and from their locker room. The programs of the Section meetings were in general excellent and were geared to the interest of the audience. One exception was the program of the Library Architecture and Building Committee with the announced subject "First Steps in Building Planning". The program was devoted to a discussion of the two largest library buildings being built in the Southeast and though excellent for librarians planning buildings from \$700,000 up, was of small service to the majority of the audience interested in buildings from \$10,000 to \$100,000.

An unusually large delegation of South Carolina librarians attended the meeting among whom were five Negro librarians from the public, school and college libraries of the State.

S. C. Historical Commission Plans Nine-Point Program

**By Dr. J. H. Easterby, Director, Historical Commission
of South Carolina**

The Historical Commission of South Carolina has announced a nine-point program for the immediate future which should be of interest to librarians, as well as historians and teachers. The nine points are: (1) to procure copies of all public documents relating to South Carolina now in out-of-state depositories; (2) to seek to have placed in its custody all non-current records of permanent value now in the various departments of the state government; (3) to advise regarding the disposition of records of dubious value; (4) to assist local governments in solving their archives problems, to endeavor to have completed the survey of county records commenced some years ago by the Historical Records Survey, and to encourage the microfilming of local records; (5) to facilitate the use of state records by preparing additional indexes, guides, and calendars; (6) to publish as quickly as possible legislative journals down to the year 1831 when contemporaneous printing was begun; (7) to sponsor the publication of such reference books as a Dictionary of South Carolina History and a Dictionary of South Carolina Biography; (8) to encourage the excavation and

study of historic sites and their proper marking; and (9) to assist the librarians and teachers of the state by publishing a guide to the study of South Carolina history, basic documents such as charters and constitutions, contemporary accounts of important events, maps, and pictures.

Part one of the Guide to the Study of South Carolina History was published on October 28. This is entitled "Topical Lists" and is designed to serve as a syllabus for a course of study, or reading, in state history. The subject is presented under thirty topics, or units. An outline in each case is followed by (1) a reference to the Wallace History of South Carolina, (2) references in other secondary works, (3) a selected list of source materials, and (4) references to elementary text books and work books. "Topical Lists" will be followed by "A General Classified Bibliography" and later by a number of specialized lists. The series bears the title "South Carolina Bibliographies".

Copies of the "Topical Lists" may be purchased from the Historical Commission of South Carolina, World War Memorial, Columbia 1, S. C., or through local bookstores, at 50 cents per copy.

Centralized Cataloging for Orangeburg City Schools

Miss Margaret Wright, Librarian of Orangeburg High School and Supervisor of school libraries in Orangeburg, has enlarged the services of her office to include centralized cataloging for the schools in Orangeburg. Sets of catalog cards are being sent to each library along with the books which are ordered through her office.

The aim of a long-range program for Orangeburg school libraries is a union catalog of the holdings of all the city schools. The union catalog will be located in the Orangeburg High School and individual catalogs in each library in the school system.

Another project for this school year is the coordination of library instruction throughout the schools.

Monthly meetings are held by the school librarians to discuss problems of joint interest. Miss Wright visits the various school libraries to assist the librarians in the preparation of budgets and reports and in taking inventories. She also approves all requisitions before books and materials are ordered.

Miss Wright was appointed to the new position of Supervisor of School Libraries by the Orangeburg School Administrators in the fall of 1948. The libraries under her supervision include a high school, a junior high school, now under construction, and two elementary schools for white students. A high school and elementary school for negroes are also included in the system.

Nancy Jane Day Elected to A. L. A. Council

Miss Nancy Jane Day, School Library Supervisor, State Department of Education, Columbia, has been elected by the membership at large to the American Library Association Council for a four year term. The Council is the legislative body of the Association. Miss Ellen Perry, Librarian, Greenville Public Library represents the S. C. State Library Association on the Council.

Duties and Responsibilities of the Board of Trustees

1. Draws up its own by-laws with provision for amendment or revision. By-laws customarily provide for (1) stated time and place of meeting, (2) the annual election of officers, (3) the titles and duties of officers, (4) the number necessary for a quorum, (5) the calling of special meetings, and other provisions common to such organizations.
2. Employs a librarian with education, technical training and executive ability to promote library development.
3. Establishes policies regarding the education, training and experience for library employees.
4. Secures adequate funds to promote the services of the library.
5. Proportions the budget to be assigned to different major items of expenditure.
6. Adopts a workable budget in keeping with Rules and Regulations of State Aid.
7. Determines hours of service, days open, holidays, vacations, retirement and sick leave for all staff members.
8. Establishes policy for the use of the library building for other than strictly library service.
9. Sets up regulations governing the establishment of branches or other extension services.
10. Determines criteria for the acceptance of gifts, endowments or legacies.
11. Authorizes all expenditures from library funds and empowers the treasurer to pay salaries and bills.
12. Broadens continuously their knowledge of library service and its possibilities in the community's educational program.

Bindery Established at South Carolina Penitentiary

The South Carolina Penitentiary Binding Industry of Columbia began operation on May 1 under the management of Mr. B. C. Frost. The Industry is equipped to bind text and library books as well as magazines and newspapers.

The State Library Board, the Richland County Library and the University of S. C. Library have had sample groups of books bound. The quality of the materials used is excellent and the workmanship good though not yet equal to a commercial bindery. No picture covers are available, but the binding is attractive.

Transportation will be paid by the Bindery on orders which exceed \$200. All transportation costs on smaller orders must be paid by the consignor.

The following net prices to public libraries for class A bindings have been announced by Mr. Frost:

Books

Lengths to and including 8"	\$.80
Over 8" and including 9"95
Over 9" and including 10"	1.15
Over 10" and including 12"	1.50
Over 12" and including 14"	1.90

Magazines

Lengths to and including 10"	\$2.00
Over 10" and including 12"	2.30
Over 12" and including 14"	2.70
Over 14" and including 16"	3.30

These prices include up to five lines of lettering on each volume.

Duties and Responsibilities of the Chief Librarian

1. Recommends the general program and the policies to govern the library which the board adopts, modifies or rejects. The librarian carries out the details of the program according to the adopted policy.
2. Designs a workable and progressive plan for extending library service in the area.
3. Makes at regular intervals clear and definite reports of the library's progress to board members and to county and city officials.
4. Advises with the Board on needs for growth of service to be considered in the proposed annual budget.
5. Operates the library within the terms of the budget adopted by the board.
6. Purchases books, periodicals, maps, films, records and other materials as well as supplies and equipment for good library service.
7. Attends board meetings, except during a discussion of his salary. His technical training and experience enables him to provide necessary information and to plan with the board steps for improved service. He is not a voting member of the board, but often acts as secretary.
8. Recommends to the library board the employment, promotion or dismissal of the staff.
9. Delegates responsibilities to staff members, supervises and coordinates the work of the whole staff.
10. Establishes an inter-library loan system.
11. Cooperates with other city and county officials.
12. Has oversight and maintenance of building, grounds and equipment to prevent loss, damage or unnecessary deterioration.

Adapted from North Carolina Library Commission.

Columbia Library Club

The Columbia Library Club held its first meeting of the 1949-50 season at Caldwell's Cafeteria on September 14 at 6:30. Miss Lois Barbare, President of the Club, presided. Mr. William A. Patch, Chairman of the Program Committee, announced the program for the year. Miss Mary Grey Withers and Miss Monteen Manning, recent graduates respectively of the School of Library Service, Columbia University and of the Division of Librarianship, Emory University, gave reports on recent trends in education for librarianship. Miss Mary Timberlake reported on the workshop for college and university librarians which she attended at Columbia University.

At the second meeting of the Library Club held on October 12 Dr. J. H. Easterby, Director of the Historical Commission of South Carolina, talked on the work of the Commission.

The Library Club will meet on the second Wednesday of each month. A program of South Carolina libraries, history, literature, and art has been arranged. A report on the Miami meeting of the A.L.A. will be given on November 9. On December 14 Mrs. Louise Jones DuBose will speak on South Carolina literature. On January 11 Miss Estellene P. Walker will report on the work of the State Library Board. On March 8 Miss Nancy Jane Day will explain the school library program of the state. Definite arrangements have not yet been made for the February and April meetings.

Report of U. S. Labor Department

SALARIES AND WORKING CONDITIONS OF LIBRARY EMPLOYEES, 1949

Early in 1949 the U. S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics in cooperation with the American Library Association made a survey of salaries and working conditions of library employees in the United States. Information for the survey was collected by means of a mail questionnaire filled out by representative members of library staffs throughout the country. Altogether more than 19,000 professional and nonprofessional employees participated in the study.

On September 27, 1949 a release was sent from the U. S. Department of Labor giving the preliminary results of this study. These results are summarized below for the information of librarians.

Salaries of library employees in the U. S. average \$2,575 a year.

Average professional library employee receives \$3,050 a year.

Average nonprofessional library employee receives \$1,975 a year.

The lowest annual average salary for professional library employees was found in the Middle West — \$2,575 a year.

The lowest annual average salary for nonprofessional workers was found in the Southeast — \$1,675 a year.

Most usual work week for library employees is forty hours.

Evening work for librarians is generally limited to one or two days a week.

Library employees typically receive holidays with pay. Most commonly, they get nine or more holidays annually.

Most typical vacation provisions are four weeks or a month annually for professional employees and two weeks for nonprofessional employees.

Most usual amount of sick leave provided is ten to twelve work days a year.

About 3/4 of the professional and 2/3 of the nonprofessional workers in libraries are covered by some type of retirement plan.

Salaries, including methods of determining pay increases and opportunities for promotion were the most frequent complaint of library employees. A good deal of dissatisfaction was also voiced about lunch, rest room and locker facilities as well as physical working conditions. There was general satisfaction among both the professional and nonprofessional employees with their jobs as a whole.

Graham Wins in A. L. A. Election

Mr. Clarence R. Graham, librarian of the Louisville, Kentucky Public Library, has been elected first vice-president and president-elect of the American Library Association to succeed President Milton E. Lord at the end of the 1950 A.L.A. Conference.

Mr. Graham graduated from Western Reserve in 1935 and has been librarian of the Louisville Public Library since 1942. He has represented Kentucky on the A.L.A. Membership Committee and served as Chairman of the

Television and Libraries Committee of the Audio-Visual Board. At present, he is President of the Southeastern Library Association.

Many progressive measures have been introduced in the Louisville Library during Mr. Graham's regime. In 1947 "neighborhood colleges" were established at some of the branch libraries where members of the University of Louisville faculty give courses in the humanities. An outstanding audio-visual program has been developed under Mr. Graham's supervision.

A. L. A. Membership

Those who have not paid their A.L.A. membership dues for 1949 are urged to do so. South Carolina membership quota increases each year. To meet the goal for 1949 you are asked to pay your own dues and to recruit new members from librarians, trustees and institutions. The A.L.A. needs our full support.

Mrs. Ella Sue Smith, Member of the A.L.A. Membership Committee and Librarian of the Anderson Public Library, Anderson, S. C., will be glad to send you membership blanks, or you may request blanks and leaflets from the Membership Office, A.L.A., 50 East Huron St., Chicago 11, Illinois.

News of Appointments

MISS JULIA FRANCES PITTS has been appointed librarian of the Lander College Library. Miss Pitts received her B.A. degree from Western Kentucky State Teacher's College and her Master's degree in Library Science from George Peabody College for Teachers.

MISS EMILY COPELAND, Head, Library Science Department, State Agricultural and Mechanical College, Orangeburg, is on leave of absence this school year for graduate study at New York University. Mrs. Gracia Watermann Dawson, a graduate of State College and of the Hampton Institute Library School and for several years librarian of Chafin College at Orangeburg, will substitute for Miss Copeland during her absence.

MISS LUCILE WHITE of McBee became librarian of the Hartsville Memorial Library on September 1. Miss White has been in high school library work for nine years, five years in Texas and four in South Carolina.

MISS MARJORIE CHANDLER of Georgetown has succeeded Mrs. Robert Driscoll as librarian of the Newberry-Saluda Regional Library. Miss Chandler graduated from Columbia College in June where she had undergraduate courses in library science. Beginning next summer she will be granted leave of absence from the Newberry-Saluda Library to enter the graduate library school of Emory University. Miss Chandler plans to complete requirements for her library degree during successive summer terms at Emory.

The Acts and Joint Resolutions South Carolina Regular Session 1949 are available to any public library from Mrs. Virginia Moody, State Librarian, State House, Columbia, for the price of postage.